OTVARC Oscillator

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

March 1995 Issue

The Prez Sez:

from Bill - N7VZF

Well, here we are again. The first quarter of 1995 is almost gone. It has gone by very rapidly from my standpoint. The board has been very busy in the last 2 and a half months working on projects and starting the wheels in motion to make us a strong and viable club again.

I am a firm believer in the old adage - "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!" The thing is, it has been broken and that is why we all need to work toward the club's well-being again.

"What is broken?" You might ask yourself that. Well from my point of view, it isn't so much broken and just in the need of a good tune-up. It is like we do in the spring to our lawn mowers and cars. Sure, its running but it could be running better.

In this issue, you will find several articles addressing the subject of "getting involved". This might take on the area of volunteering with one of the local agencies who are in need of help. It might be helping work with the club planning our field day event. It might even be working as an Elmer for a new ham. What ever it is, what ever your vision, what ever your passion, get involved. Enough said. Read the articles by Janet Bell (VP) and Alan Chinnock (Secretary) and see what I mean.

I want to thank the board members for taking on the task of securing articles for this publication. Each one of the Trustees has been assigned the duties on different months. That doesn't mean that we don't need your help in those areas. Please feel free to submit stories, jokes, cartoons, whatever you think the rest of the club members would be interested in reading or seeing.

After my column last month concerning my code dilemma, I was interested in reading the article that Burt Rooke (KI7JX) submitted. It is too large to put in one issue so I will be publishing the next part next month. If you are working on your code to upgrade, it is worth reading.

Speaking of training, the club is now has VHS format training films for "Novice/Tech" and "Upgrade" available for lending. Contact Burt for more information.

While I am on education. If you were at the last meeting you know there was a fair amount of discussion concerning our club in regards to education and schools. I am preparing to present an article about a club in Georgia that is a good example to us all. I want to thank Brad Beach for supplying the article. It will be presented over the next several months also.

Finally, we have finished preparing the "Membership Profile" questionnaire that was mentioned in board minutes. They will be included with the news letter either this month or next. Please fill them out and return them to Alan - KB7POR either at the next membership meeting or via US Snail to our PO Box. That's it for this month.

73 - de N7VZF

...From the Second Seat

from Janet Bell, WB7FJC v.p.

FUTURE TENSE:

Our **March** program is David Aucsmith, N7VKC of Intel on "Secure Communications."

April is "Earthquake Preparedness Month" and we'll have Deputy Peter Poulos, Emergency Management Specialist with the Washington County Emergency Management Office talking about Personal & Family Emergency Preparedness.

In **May** we have rescheduled the Westside Light Rail project engineer. Let's hope the third time is the charm, they couldn't make it the last two times.

In a future program we will have Gary Gilham, KA7PZB, a volunteer with the American Red Cross, Oregon Trail Chapter, with the Chapter on Wheels (COW). He will bring the COW to the meeting, so you can investigate it for yourselves.

June is traditionally "Field Day", and we also are still thinking about programs from the DX Bureau about handling of QSL cards; Life Flight; GTE Response to Disaster; Amateur TV; MARS stations; Research and Development of Antennas; a Travelog by Emerson Hoyt; Smart Batteries; Antenna Talk-G5RV; and Frequency Testing of Handhelds.

We are always looking for interesting program ideas and wish to thank Betty Mickley, N7REX, for most of the above ideas; as well as Hanford "Van" Van Ness, KE7BB, and Leonard Thompson, KA7IOB, for additional ideas.

Please keep us in mind if you hear of anything you think we would enjoy!!! Call me at 648-8821 or 648-4147. Thanks!

Next Month - Read how a Georgia Ham Club makes local schools become *RadioActive*

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From the Secretary

Alan Chinnock KB7POR

At the February general membership meeting we were privileged to see what makes clubs based on our hobbies great. Two gentlemen described the event they were putting together for their own enjoyment, and for others. They were putting in a lot of work, and have done so for several years. As a result many people have enjoyed an activity based on their hobby.

You may think I am talking about Amateur Radio. Sadly, I am not. I am talking about a road rally. Bob Wakehouse and Todd Terp came to us at OTVARC for help with communications in their rally. We at OTVARC let them down. We Radio Amateurs did not actively step forward to volunteer to assist them. I am not sure why this happened.

If you are waiting for someone on the board of directors to twist your arm to do the job you have missed the point. The board is elected to run the club. Our job is not to force people to do things. What we do best is provide a place for like minded people, Radio Amateurs, to get together and do what we enjoy. Use radio. It is up to the members to see interesting activities and grab the opportunity.

If you are waiting for Randy Stimson KZ7T, our public service guy, to do something you are a little closer to the answer. Yes, it is his task to coordinate these types of activities, but even Randy can get tired of always pushing people to sign up. And sometimes he is not able to make it to all the meetings.

By now I think you are getting the picture. Activities like this are a lot more fun if the interested people willingly volunteer. You will even find that there is a lot of help and experience available to you once you get something started. Let's start volunteering to do things and make our club, OTVARC, the activity rich organization it can be.

QSL CARD: A piece of paper with the operators name and address on it. Also various wonderful accomplishments and writings that show 'belonging.' These cards are often sent to overseas operators who are referred to as 'one-way pen pals.'

In Remembrance

It is with great sadness that I note of the passing of Debbie Allen on February 16, 1995. Debbie was the wonderful wife of Wes Allen - K7WWG and loving mother of Wayne Allen - KB7OYI. Wes also has two daughters. Our heart felt sympathy to you Wes and your family.

I know that many of the members of the club knew Debbie and knew how wonderful and giving she was to friends and strangers alike.

In remembrance of Debbie, I am requesting the board approve a donation in her name to the American Cancer Society. I urge all who knew Debbie to do what you can to help this cause

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

by Janet Bell, WB7FJC

We need your help! Especially if you are retired and have some time on your hands.

There are many opportunities to help people through the Volunteer Bureau.

Just to mention a few...

American Red Cross With so many disasters lately, there is always a need for funds. The federal government names the Red Cross to help, but does not give them any funding. **All their funds are donated.** There is a real need for persons to give blood and to assist in the blood donor program, (assisting donors if you cannot give blood yourself). They always need **computer literate people** to help with Public Affairs, in desktop publishing and data entry in the Health and Safety division. **Clerical support** is always needed in the Emergency Services division, as well as in all other divisions. **Drivers, Instructors**, and of course, there are always openings for **AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS**. If you are interested in helping the Red Cross, please volunteer by calling **MARY GIBNEY AT 284-0011 X232**, at the Red Cross and tell her OTVARC sent you!

The American Cancer Society There is always a need to drive patients to doctor's appointments as well as other things that need to be done. Please call the Society at **295-6422**.

Meals on Wheels needs drivers to help out when their regular volunteers are on vacation.
Call **648-3823 or 643-9434**.

Washington County Woodcutters, Inc. These folks cut wood that is donated to them and distribute it to needy elderly and disabled persons. Call them at **649-8247** to help get in a wood supply. If you have trees that you want to donate to the program, that would be a great help too. There is also a way for you to earn some wood for your use by helping cut, stack and transport wood for the Woodcutters.

HELP PEOPLE LEARN TO READ! If you really want to make a difference--go to your local elementary school and volunteer to read with the kids. If a person learns to read, that person can learn how to do just about anything else, just by reading and trying. Get involved in a literacy program! The percentage of persons in jail who are functionally illerate is astounding!

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Minutes of Board Meeting 2/1/95

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bill Merwin.

2 Those in attendance were Bill Merwin, Janet Bell, Lorna Campbell, Alan Chinnock, Brad Beach, Bob Cowan, Burt Rooke, Chuck Mickley, Betty Mickley, and Neil Mckie.

3. Treasurer's report - It looks like all the loose ends from last year have been pulled together. Brad and Lorna are working to file the taxes.

4. 501c3 committee is still working. Will report by general meeting.

5. Repeaters - Wes has been working on them. The 146.900 repeater will be needing a new home. One of the possible sites will be needing some sweat equity to get it ready.

6. Membership - We have about 230 members.

7. SEAPAC - The speakers are confirmed. The mailer is ready to go out.

8. **Old Business** -

Scholarship - The group Bill was thinking of using is not chartered to accept scholarships from groups like OTVARC. The Oregon Scholarship Commission needed to have things wrapped up in September.

Moved and seconded to table the scholarship for 1995. Committee to be formed to be ready by September 1995. Passed unanimously.

Moved and seconded to present plan to the general membership to use our money to buy books and equipment to promote amateur radio through schools and libraries. Passed unanimously.

Moved and seconded to contribute $250 to ARRL to support comic book program. Passed unanimously.

SIG groups were assigned to the trustees on the board. The board members have the responsibility to see that the SIG leaders remain active.

We need to put together budgets for the various activities of the club.

AV Training materials - Moved and seconded to buy 2 each of the Technician and General class video tapes from ARRL for $400. The tapes will be kept by Burt Rooke. Passed unanimously.

Inventory -Al Berg is our equipment manager. We need to have a current inventory. Brad Beach will follow up on this. Desirable to have as many of the board members as possible involved in taking the inventory.

Membership Questionnaire - Will go out in the next newsletter and will be handed out at the meetings. We also need a brochure to give to new and prospective members.

9. **New Business** -

There are several forms to fill out for ARRL. Alan Chinnock to handle.
Bob Cowan to look into directors' insurance.
Chuck Mickley to follow up on getting a club call sign again. (W7OTV)
Brad Beach to investigate getting a postage meter.

10. Adjourned at 9:07 pm.

EMERGENCY SERVICES - Tim N7UCA

We only have to glance at the newspaper or catch the evening news to be reminded of how vulnerable the world is to natural disaster. Whether it's a major earthquake in Japan or the devastating floods in California & SW Oregon, one of the first things affected is the ability to communicate.

This should remind us of the main reason Amateur Radio exists - to provide a resource of trained communicators and equipment in the event of an emergency. I would urge all Hams, and especially the newer ones, to get involved. Make the effort to check into the various nets & get involved.

During the winter months when the opportunity to tackle outside projects is at a minimum, it's a good time to review and upgrade your emergency communication capabilities. For example:

1. Every Ham should have an emergency kit with the basic essentials you need to "grab it & go". Include a supply of any medications, a basic first aid kit and few packets of sealed food such as beef jerky or the freeze dried meals like mountain climbers use.
2. You should also put together a communications kit containing cables, adapters, etc. Label everything so you don't have to guess later what its for. One of the most time consuming parts of setting up a station at an emergency site is getting everything connected together, especially the power connections. I strongly urge you to install the "Anderson" type power connectors in all your DC powered rigs. Wes Allen has kits of them available very reasonably. Both OTVARC and Washington County ARES have standardized on this connector for DC power connections.
3. Nicad batteries are convenient and ecologically responsible, but virtually worthless if you don't have a place to plug in the charger. Alkaline batteries last longer, and are easy to come by. Get yourself a battery pack (or 2 - they're cheap) for your HT that takes alkaline AA cells. AA cells have a shelf life of a couple years - longer if you put them in a ziploc bag in the refrigerator. Rotate your supply on an annual basis - give the stored ones to the kids for their toys & replace them with fresh stock.

In future issues we'll address more aspects of emergency communications. One final thing I strongly urge you to do is become familiar with emergency net procedures. A good way is to check into the nets & listen to how they operate. There are several in the local area - District 1 ARES every evening at 7:30pm on the 147.32 repeater and Washington County ARES every Tues. (except meeting nights - 2nd Tues.) at 7:00pm on the 146.90 repeater are a couple you might start with.

In an emergency, OTVARC members should monitor the 146.90 repeater. The club also uses the 440.350 repeater and 147.42 simplex.

73, Tim - N7UCA - AEC/OTVARC

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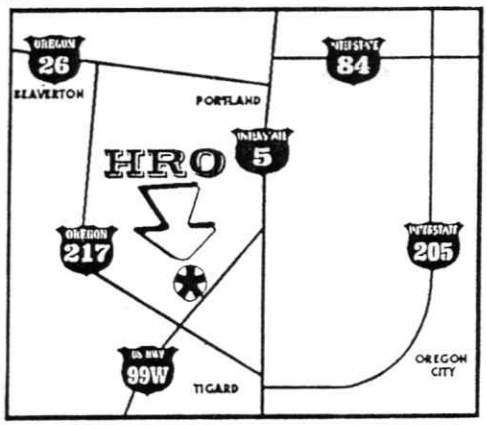

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News From All Over

Reprinted from Various Sources

Vanity Call Update

COMMISSION AMENDS AMATEUR SERVICE RULES
TO IMPLEMENT
A VANITY CALL SIGN SYSTEM
(PR DOCKET NO.93-305)

In recognition of the strong sense of identity among amateur operators that is grounded in the call signs of their stations, the Commission has decided to offer a vanity call sign system to the amateur service community. The Commission will also resume issuing new club and military recreation station licenses. The Commission said these actions are fundamental to its commitment to putting the needs of people first in providing the services that they want.

Each new amateur station licensed by the FCC is assigned a unique call sign. An automated process selects the call sign in accordance with the sequential call sign system. Until recently, the Commission was unable to accommodate the many thousands of requests for call signs of the licensee's choice. The Commission stated that one of its many steps in re-inventing Government is to implement new licensing processing capabilities that make it practical to grant such requests.

The Commission will implement the new system by using a series of four "Starting Gates". Gate One would allow a previous holder of a call to apply for that call sign, or where the holder is deceased, a close relative could apply. Gate Two would allow 66,000 Amateur Extra Class operators, who have passed the most difficult license examination, to apply. Gate Three would allow the 112,000 Advanced Class operators, who have passed the second most difficult license examinations, to apply; Gate Four would be open to any licensee, including a club station license trustee applying for a call sign of a deceased former holder.

The Commission will announce the opening of each gate by a Public Notice. The first gate will open as soon as the new application form - FCC Form 610-V, is available and the Commission's licensing facility is prepared to begin processing the applications.

With respect to new club station licenses, the Commission stated that persons not holding a club station license must first apply for and receive a license before filing, then apply with the fee collection contractor requesting that the license be modified to show a vanity call sign.

However, the Commission will begin accepting applications for new club and military recreation station licenses on the date of the report and Order as this proceeding becomes effective.

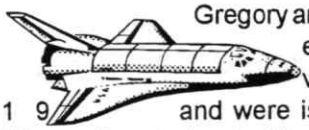
(Reprinted from February Issue of "Hoodview News")

STS-67 - Radio Active Crew

MARCH SHUTTLE NEARLY A FULL HOUSE OF AMATEURS

*S*huttle *A*mateur *R*adio *EX*periment (SAREX) flight STS-67, scheduled for March 2 to 18, will include the usual scheduled radio contacts with schools, random radio contacts with amateurs, and personal contacts with the astronauts' families.

Aboard STS-67 are Stephen S. Oswald, commander, KB5YSR; William G. Gregory, pilot, KC5MGA; Wendy B. Lawrence, mission specialist, KC5KII; Ronald A. Parise, payload specialist, WA4SIR; Samuel T. Durrance, payload specialist, N3TQA; and Tamara E. Jernigan, payload commander, KC5MGF. One crew member is not a licensed amateur.



Gregory and Jernigan took Technician class examinations with ARRL volunteer examiners on January 19 and were issued call signs on January 25 (Hurray for electronic filing!).

So six of *Endeavour*'s seven crewmembers now have Amateur Radio Licenses. Long-time amateur-in-space Ron Parise has said his goal is to "Keep up with" Astronaut Ken Cameron, KB5AWP, by eventually being part of an all-ham crew.

Schools expected to participate are located in 26 places, including 17 states, as well as South Africa, India and Australia.

(Reprinted from March-95 issue of QST)

Rose Festival Needs Volunteers

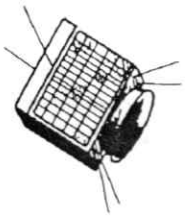
Rose Festival will be here sooner than you think! We're already looking for volunteers to work the two parades.

The ***Starlight Parade*** is the same weekend as the SEAPAC convention (Saturday, June 3, 1995). So, if you're not goint to spend the entire weekend there, we could use 2-meter & 440 operators to each cover (Walking back and forth) about a 3 block range along the parade route. We'll need about 15 operators (which is always a challenge when most hams are bsy tiptoeing through tables of trash tantalized by those terrific treasures). It's a long time to June, but please be reasonably certain that you'll be able to work the parade if you volunteer.

The ***Grand Floral Parade*** (Saturday June 10, 1995) has many operators already, however, each year there is some turn over. If you would like to be placed on a list of potential volunteers, please give me a call.

The ***Portland Rose Festival Association*** is grateful to the many hams who operate each year and to ***ARRG*** whose repeaters are used for these events. They say **THANK YOU!**

Contact: Barry Carlson (WB7WTD) -
245-8279(eve); 254-1265 (days)



From: Satellite Station - W7KJZ

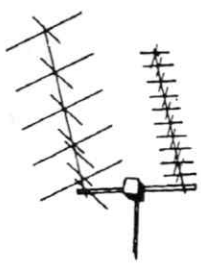
First, I would like to pass along my gratitude to those who have helped me get started and keep going in satellite communications. Red Robert, AA7CP, helped me locate a shareware tracking program plus provided answers to my many questions on the subject of satellites. Bill, AA6QL , also was helpful in showing me a tower that would do the job for those very long satellite yagi's. And lastly, but certainly not the least, I must mention Bill Roth, N7RYW. Bill has been and still is a tremendous help in getting me started on the digital sats. Bill constantly amazes me with his knowledge and understanding of satellite communications. That being said, on with some more stuff....

As you may recall, last month I submitted information about the newest (and unfortunately the last] Russian satellite RS-15. For you trivia buffs out there , RS means "Radio Sputnik" although I am not sure of the spelling of Sputnik. Well, in an article which appeared in the 2/1/95 issue of OSCAR Satellite Report Martin Davidoff, K2UBC, discussed the parameter called ADAT) Average Daily Access Time. According to Martin's graph, RS-15 has an ADAT at our latitude of approximately 195 minutes. Compare this to the RS10/11 ADAT of approximately 100 minutes. Of course all of this is only meaningful for the LEO satellites. What's a LEO satellite you say?

Simply stated LEOs are Low Earth Orbit Sats. These sats orbit the earth in a circular fashion from about 600 to 2,000 miles out in space depending on the satellite. They move at a different speed than does the planet. Typically they can be worked for about 20 minutes during a high elevation pass. RS-15 can be considered a LEO and has a high elevation (>30 degrees from the horizon) pass period of about 30 minutes. RS-15s altitude is about 1250 miles above the earth. Most of the Amateur Satellites are LEOs with polar orbits. By contrast there is the Molniya Orbit Sats. These satellites have an elliptical orbit with the Earth being at the perigee end of the ellipse. The big advantage of a Molniya Sat is a long access time when the Sat "sees" your part of the world. AMSAT's phase IIId satellites are this kind. In particular OSCAR 13 can be "visible" for up to 8 hours from our neighborhood! And finally there is the sun synchronous or geostationary sats which appear stationary because there orbit speed matches the earth's rotation. Currently there are no amateur sun synchronous satellites.

Well, that's it for this month. I am interested in hearing from anyone that has a particular topic they would like to see discussed or defined. You can reach me by phone at 245-1928 or on packet: W7KJZ @ W0RLI.

73
Dick



This Week's Brainteaser:

Jack and Jill have the same birthday. They are both 4 years old and have the same father and mother. They are not twins. They are not adopted. How is this possible?

..._. _.. ..._. _.. FIELD DAY 1995 ..._. _.. ..._. _..

Carl Clawson WS7L

Field Day 1995 will be on Friday-Sunday June 23-26, at a location, yet to be determined, near or in the Beaverton-Aloha-Hillsboro area. Mark your calendars. Set-up will begin Friday evening and operation will commence at 11:00 a.m. local time Saturday.

Many of you have participated in Field Day before. For those who haven't, here's a description of it: Field Day is an annual event sponsored by the ARRL, held on the fourth full weekend of June. Operation is from 1800 UTC (11:00 a.m. local time) Saturday to 1800 UTC Sunday. We set up stations under field conditions and for 24 hours make as many contacts as possible. This sharpens our skills at setting up and communicating under conditions typical of an emergency situation-we're outside, and away from our 110V power, workshops, and antenna farms. By conducting Field Day in a public location, we expose the general public to Amateur Radio and its capabilities. Plus, we have lots of fun. It's a great way to get together and socialize with your fellow hams. And it costs nothing, which is nowhere near what you just spent at Rickreall, or what you will have spent at Sea Pac!

OTVARC's emergency communications trailer is the centerpiece of our operation. It is wired for 12V battery power and has a crank-up tower that supports a beam antenna as well as supporting the center points of 40 and 80-m dipoles or inverted vees. For the Novice/Tech station OTVARC has a beam that mounts on a guyed extension ladder as well as dipoles for 40 and 80.

Field Day serves also as a friendly way to get a taste of HF contest operation. I recommend it especially to newer licensees who have not experienced the thrill of HF operation. I want to emphasize that the event is open to ANYONE, even if you don't have your license yet or if you don't have HF privileges. Because we will have appropriate control operators on duty at all times, the mike and key are legally open to any interested, responsible human being. We will have three HF stations on the air: Phone, CW and Novice/Tech, all powered by battery. Packet, satellite, and VHF/UHF SSB/CW/FM stations also might to be featured.

I will welcome suggestions for locations. Such areas as schools and parks are often available for this kind of activity. I plan to make a selection during March.

Of course, there is all the usual stuff that needs to be arranged, and I'll detail that in coming newsletters. There are two things we need that I'll mention right now:

1. Call Signs: We need two stations two act as Field Day trustees. We will use these two call signs on the air for all operations. One must be Extra Class (not necessarily with a short call sign, a 2x3 will be fine) to be trustee for the main stations, and one must be either Novice or Tech-Plus to be trustee for the Novice/Tech station.

2. Novice/Tech station coordinator. The rules state that the Novice/Tech station must be set up by novices and technicians. (Advice & guidance by others is OK.) I have found that this works best if there is a Novice/Tech station who will work with me prior to the event to become familiar with the equipment and the rules, and who will coordinate the set up and operation of that station. You do not need to be a Tech Plus for this position. So if you are a new OTVARC member just itching to find your niche where you can contribute something to the club just give me a call.

TAFN,

-- Carl 629-5796 or cclawson@pkinetics.com

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Acquiring the Radiotelegraph Code -

Wm G Pierpont N0HFF

Reprinted from an article published in the Morsum Magnificat - Christmas 1993 Issue

The ultimate goal in learning the telegraph code is to reach the point where one is as unconscious of the dits and dahs and letters (and even words) as one is of the letters and individual sounds in conversing or reading. Only when there is a distraction - such as a foreign 'Accent', speech defect or the like, or for telegraphy poor quality sending, or interference from static or other stations - do these features come to attention. The purpose of telegraphy is to communicate.

Telegraphy is a learned skill, like tennis, golf or writing shorthand. These all begin with conscious effort to develop the details of action, then with repetitious practice they gradually become automatic and become progressively easier. A new set of habits has been formed, and one's conscious attention is transferred from the details to the overall purpose, the larger aspects.

In telegraphy, there are stages of achievement along the line, and as each is reached there is a sense of new freedom and enjoyment in its use. Once comes to 'Love to communicate in code'.

Two major stages stand out. The first is basic and essential; when each 'letter' (including numbers, punctuation marks and other signals as needed) is instantly recognized as soon as it has been heard as being the 'letter' itself without any hesitation or conscious effort at all. For example, when the hear hears 'di-dah' the mind thinks 'A', and if one is writing it down, writes 'A' immediately, like an automatic printer. The second stage is but an extension of the first, and may start before stage one is achieved; it is the ability to send and receive words as words, not as strings of letters. Obviously, this stage is a growing one, beginning with the short, common worlds. Here there is no longer any consciousness of spelling, any more than good readers spell out words. The code is becoming 'natural', a sort of second nature, and there is freedom to listen and express oneself freely.

Carried to its ultimate, the expert telegrapher, like the skilled typist or stenographer, can be busily writing incoming messages while he is thinking about something else, and may be quite surprised to see what he has written. Few of us would care to go that far.

As the details no longer demand attention, the code becomes more and more a 'language' with its own inherent beauty for communication and expression. This begins to be felt as stage one is reached.

First Impressions Most Lasting

Since learning the code is establishing a new set of habits, it doesn't make sense to begin in such a way that later efforts are impeded. First impressions are always strongest and most long lasting. A false step here may become a long time obstacle. Radio telegraphy is sound, heard through the ears. It should be approached this way from the very first exposure; there is no real reason ever to see the code in a written form - why add such an unnecessary and useless step? Years ago it used to be taught that way from charts or tables, but experience has shown that this costs from 50 to 100 per cent more time to reach the same proficiency. So to start out right; code is SOUND.

Through the years various ingenious schemes have been devised to present the code in visual form. Some of them can be learned very quickly, and may be adequate for those who need the barest working knowledge at very low speeds. But for most people these 'short-cuts' become hindrances.

Each code letter should be thought of as a UNIT of sound, even though it is built up of bits and pieces (dits and dahs). Each letter has its own peculiar pattern, rhythm or swing. Its sound is not to be thought of in isolation, but from the very first in association with the printed letter it corresponds to. For example, 'di-dah' is 'A'. It doesn't 'stand for 'A' to have to be translated, but is to be though of as **being** 'A'. To promote the sense of UNITY of sound, most instructors have the letters send at a character rate ranging from 13 to 20 wpm, with wide spaces between. The instructions given are: when you hear 'di-dah', think 'A' and write 'A'. The particular rhythm of each letter (how it sounds) gives it away - you recognize it for what it is.

Keep Proper Proportions

The essence of code is TIMING. A dah is three times as long as a dit. Proper spacing between letters and between words is important to maintain. Within letters the space between dits and dahs is one dit. When any of these time intervals are violated the transmission becomes more or less unintelligible. Habit formation is expedited and confusion of mind avoided by using only well-sent code for practising. Keeping proper proportions makes learning much easier. Later, at times, you will probably have to deal with badly sent code, but don't burden the learning processing with it.

Practice is the ongoing ingredient of mastery until that point is reached. Short periods of not over thirty minutes have proved best - shorter if one tires before that. Not much progress is made when one is tired.

Telegraphy is a skill almost anybody can learn. Some will learn faster than others - this is natural. Age, etc., is no deterrent. Many beginners doubt that they can learn it - yet some of these find they actually prefer it above other means of communications, once they get into it.

All learning is expedited when the subject is viewed as easy and one takes a 'can do' attitude. This is especially important in skill subjects. The learner can actually speed up his learning by telling himself 'Code is easy for me'. This was one of the strong points of the famous Candler System training. He recommended that students tell themselves this between practices.

Since the first stage to be achieved is the INSTANT ASSOCIATION OF THE CODE SIGNAL WITH ITS CORRESPONDING LETTER, how can this be accomplished most efficiently? There are 26 letters, ten numbers and a half-dozen or so other signals to be differentiated. How should this be organized to facilitate learning? Should similar-sounding letters be learned

CODE - Continued on Page 10

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Registration Questions Randy 503-297-1175

Total . . . . $_____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

NICKNAME & CALL SIGN (for registration badge - please print)

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Code - Continued fromPage 8

together, and/or should contrasting letters be learned together, or some other arrangement be used?

Since our final goal is the instant association of a code signal with its letter, there cannot be a time for mental decisions, comparing or contrasting in order to identify it. At the end point each code character must stand on its own feet, so to speak, in isolation from all others. Some people may find that initially, or somewhere along the learning process, such comparisons or groupings may be helpful. By psychologically it may be best for most people to learn unrelated, uncontrasted letters together in a given study period, insofar as this is possible. In this way each letter stands on its own feet.

(First of Multi-Part Series presented by Burt Rooke - KI7JX - OTVARC Training Leader)

The Travelers

Chuck Mickley - KI7CL

In February, the Travelers gathered at Mulkey's RV park near McMinnville, a short 20 miles North of Rickreall, site of the 1995 Salem Hamfair. Recent heavy rains made newly-formed lakes out of many of the fields along the route. The nearby golf course spouted more water hazards than lost golf balls. Thank goodness the rain stopped once in awhile, and the temperature was mild (they're still talking about the snow a couple of years ago!).

For March, the Travelers will be going to Cape Kiwanda RV Park on the 17th, 18th and 19th, located at Pacific City. Now that the Spring weather has arrived, it's time to get the RV back on the road, so contact the wagonmaster, Bob Orr, WF7Q, and let him know that you are planning to attend.

Remember that the potluck is Saturday at 5:30, you're welcome to attend
even if you aren't staying overnight.

VE Testing

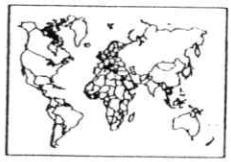
Chuck Mickley - KI7CL

The only current VE test sessions that I currently have information on are those sponsored by the Portland Adventist Hospital, 10123 SW Market St, just off I-205 near Mall 205. The dates of the sessions there for the remainder of 1995 are; Apr 9, Jul 9, and Oct 8. They will be held in the Education Center, Room A, doors open at 12:30PM and close at 1PM. As with all test sessions, you will need a copy of your current license, and the original, plus a copy and the original of any CSCE's, some other form of identification (such as a driver's license), and $5.90 for all tests above Novice.

I would like to compile a list of all active VE's that are OTVARC members, and know if they would be willing to help out on test sessions sponsored by OTVARC. I hope that we can generate enough interest to begin offering regularly-scheduled test sessions in the Beaverton area.

We also need someone to head up the VE testing. If you are interested, have information on other local test sessions, currently are a VE, or are interested in becoming a VE, please contact me, Chuck, KI7CL at 642-1284, or on packet KI7CL @ K7IQI.

1995 TRAVELERS
OUTINGS
3rd FULL WEEKEND
OF EACH MONTH



COME JOIN US -
SHARE THE FUN

17-19 FEBRUARY
MULKEY PARK
McMINNVILLE
BUD & SALLY BUTTERFIELD

17-19 MARCH
CAPE KIWANDA RV PARK
CAPE KIWANDA
BOB & JO ORR

14-16 APRIL
BAY SHORE RV PARK
NETARTS BAY
DALE & BETTY PLANER

19-21 MAY
PINE HOLLOW RESORT
34 N. MARIPOSA RD.
WAMIC
AL & MARY BERG

16-18 JUNE
-OPEN-

14-16 JULY
SKAMOKAWA, WA
ROGER & MARVEL NOYES

18-20 AUGUST
-OPEN-

15-17 SEPTEMBER
?
CHUCK & BETTY MICKLEY

20-22 OCTOBER
40505 E. HWY 224
SILVER FOX
GENE & SALLY STICKNEY

17-19 NOVEMBER
DEPOT BAY
HOLIDAY RV PARK
TOM & BARB BAILEY

DECEMBER - NO OUTING

OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board

President	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Vice President	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Secretary	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	620-2057
Treasurer	Lorna Campbell	KA7RFD	591-1891
Trustee	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
Trustee	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
Trustee	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	642-1284
Trustee	Bob Cowan	KI7QI	699-9213
Trustee	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891

Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	297-2732
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	Rich Jones	KG7FS	645-9417
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare	OPEN		
Member Badges	Terry Sparks	AA7ZO	628-0372
Newsletter Editor	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	640-8873
Newsletter Layout	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	883-8504
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Nomination of Officers	Van Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Project Night	OPEN		
Public Relations	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	N7PEX	640-0217
Satellites	Dick Emmel	W7KJZ	245-1928
Scholarship	Exec.Board	N7VZF	644-1974
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
	Randy Stimpson	KZ7T	297-1175
Technical	OPEN		
Tower Ordinances	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(Code)	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Novice/Tech)	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Upgrade)	OPEN		
VE Testing	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
VE Test Schedule	OPEN		
VHF/UHF	Bill Roth	N7RYW	297-7605

For Sale - 50' Tower

I received a call from the father of a ham in Amity. He has a 50' "Self Standing" Rohn tower with rotor. I don't know which model of Rohn it is but it was described as Free Standing. The Price is $350. You can contact the owner - David Talbot - N7JXP at:

835-8900 (Home)
931-7663 (Cell)
370-1010 (Pager)
for more information.

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1994 are as follows:

Full Page	8" X 10"	$200 for 6 mo.
Half Page	8" X 5"	$125 for 6 mo.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	$75 for 6 mo.
Bus. Card	2" X 3"	$35 for 6 mo.

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less then $6.

Membership OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, $10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), $10/yr; Family members of full member, $5/yr; Life memberships available - see Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club Treasurer for prorated dues.

How To Join: Simply mail the Member Application and Renewal Form along with your dues to the address above.

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